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TO CORRESPONDENTS.

This Journal will in future be published fortnightly on the 1st and 15th of every month.

We would request those who send us country newspapers, wishing us to read particular paragraphs, to mark the passage, by cutting a slit in the paper near it.

We cannot undertake to return offered contributions; the authors, therefore, will do well to retain copies.

Colored Envelopes are sent to all Subscribers whose payment in advance is exhausted. The paper will be discontinued where the Subscriber neglects to renew. We again remind those who are disappointed in getting back numbers, that only the music pages are stereotyped, and of the rest of the paper, only sufficient are printed to supply the current sale.

The late hour at which Advertisements reach us, interferes much with their proper classification.

A Young Organist.—Our advice would be, that you accompany the Chants and Psalms of the Church in the simplest manner, merely playing the voice parts; and taking care to support the voices, without overpowering them.

Brief Chronicle of the last Fortnight.

MENDELSSOHN ANNIVERSARY.—Stern's Gesangverein recently gave its annual performance, in memory of the immortal Mendelssohn, in the Theerbusch-Saal, the programme being composed of Mozart's *Requiem*, the 114th Psalm, for eight voices, and the recitative and choruses from Mendelssohn's unfinished oratorio of *Christus*. Mendelssohn's bust, crowned with a laurel-wreath, was placed in the middle of the room.

ENCORES.—The *Manchester Examiner and Times*, in noticing a late concert, says:—"The audience was evidently so bent upon having an ample return for their money, that in the first part,—during which we could only remain in the house,—almost every piece was a repeat. This is a sort of arbitrary proceeding, scarcely in accordance with good behaviour, and certainly as unjust to the artist, as it is to those who are desirous of hearing the whole of the programme, but who cannot make it convenient to wait until midnight for such purpose. It is a practice against which all parties ought to protest."

LARGE ORGANS.—It has been our pleasing duty to record (in late Nos. of the *Musical Times*), the erection of many large organs in various churches and concert-rooms, evidently costing considerable sums. This lavish expenditure at the outset, is curiously in contrast with the parsimony frequently evinced afterwards, in the provision of a due salary for an organist, and an adequate amount of music-books, efficiently to use the instrument thus purchased. The discrepancy is so manifest, that pointing it out should suffice to produce reform in this respect.

LIVERPOOL.—On the 2nd of Dec., the Liverpool People's Concerts were honoured with a visit from the Right Hon. Lord Stanley, M.P., who kindly acceded to a request made to him to take the chair on that occasion, and delivered an excellent speech to the company.

THE LYNN MUSICAL UNION opened their season on St. Cecilia's day, the 22nd of November.

PORTSMOUTH.—The Musical Association gave a miscellaneous concert on the 28th of November; conductor, Mr. Jones. The large panorama in illustration of the sacred cantata—*Millennial Glory*, the composition of Mr. Ellis (of Portsmouth)—which has been some time in preparation by Messrs. Carpenter and Wesley, of Regent-street, London, is announced to open for exhibition on the 6th and 7th of December.

CLIFTON rejoices in two madrigal societies. The younger of these—the Amateur Madrigal Society—gave its annual Ladies' Night, at the Victoria Rooms, on the 23rd of November. Gastoldi's "Soldiers brave and gallant be," and Benedict's charming part-song, "The Wreath," may be instanced from among a very interesting programme.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.—A musical society was formed for procuring good and cheap musical entertainment for the inhabitants. Musical director, Mr. Wilkes.

THE SOCIETY OF BRITISH MUSICIANS have announced chamber-concerts for the 7th and 21st of Dec., and 4th of January. It is their twenty-first season.

LEEDS.—Handel's *Acis and Galatea* was performed at the People's Concerts on the 2nd of Dec. The vocalists were Mrs. Sunderland, Mr. Miranda, and Mr. Lambert.

WELSHPOOL.—Mr. R. Sloman's (organist of this town) annual concert was honored by the presence of the Earl and Countess of Powis, and other members of the aristocracy, on the 30th of November.

BATH.—The Pump-room Concerts continue to be conducted by Messrs. Milson and Son in a spirited manner.—Mr. H. Simms's concert, on the 29th of November, at the Assembly-room, was very successful. Madame Clara Novello and Mr. Sims Reeves formed the attraction.

BRIGHTON.—A number of gentlemen in this town have established a "Carol Society," by which they will afford an opportunity of hearing Christmas and other carols, of the best and ancient kind, performed in a becoming manner. They are at present practising the Revs. Helmore and Neale's Carols for Christmas-tide.

WORCESTER.—The new organ erected in the concert-room, was opened on the 29th of November. Its various powers were exhibited by Mr. Jabez Jones, Mr. Haynes, Mr. Uglow, and Mr. Chipp, to a large auditory. The organ-playing was relieved by some light choruses executed by the Madrigal Society, under the conduct of Mr. Wm. Done.

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.—The Sacred Harmonic and Choral Society gave their two last concerts for the year on Tuesday the 5th, and Wednesday the 6th inst. On the former evening was performed Handel's *Dettingen Te Deum*, Mendelssohn's *As the hart pants*, and Mozart's 12th Mass (English version); and on the latter evening, *Elijah*. The soloists were, Mrs. Craven, Miss Megson, and Miss Freeman; Mr. Ashton, and Mr. Hemmingway.

BRENTFORD.—The members of the Harmonic Society gave a concert at the Town Hall, on the 27th November, assisted by the Misses Brougham and Wells; Messrs. Genge and Farquharson Smith. Mr. Williams conducted.

MADAME CLARA NOVELLO, Mr. Sims Reeves, and the Madrigal Union, concluded their provincial tour, by singing at Chester, Liverpool, Leamington, Birmingham, Oxford, and Brighton. Full rooms greeted them everywhere Mr. Beale commences a supplemental tour with Madame Clara Novello, and other assisting artists; revisiting some towns, and including those which were necessarily omitted before.

SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY.—The production of Handel's *Deborah* was characterized by the minute care and pains-taking of the conductor, Mr. Costa, which seemed to have diffused itself into every department of the performance. This early oratorio of Handel, though deficient in those great soprano airs which distinguish his later oratorios, nevertheless, contains, in the part of *Deborah*, recitatives demanding fervent and impressive delivery. Being entrusted to Madame Clara Novello, they received the requisite dramatic effect. The duet, "Where do thy ardours raise me," (Madame Clara Novello, and Miss Dolby), is a charming specimen of the old Italian school.

LIVERPOOL.—On Thursday last, Handel's *Messiah* was given at the Philharmonic Hall, in a style of completeness and perfection seldom witnessed in the provinces. The chief vocalists were Mesdames Clara Novello, Enderssohn, and Lockey; Messrs. Sims Reeves, Lockey, and H. Phillips, aided by the full band and chorus of the society, numbering 250 executants. Madame Clara Novello sang the airs and recitatives incidental to her portion of the oratorio, with her accustomed superior taste and feeling, and Mrs. Enderssohn deserved no small praise for her share of the performance; Mrs. Lockey also did full justice to the contralto music. Mr. Sims Reeves was in splendid voice, and created a powerful sensation, and Messrs. Lockey and H. Phillips came in for a portion of the applause liberally bestowed by the audience. The choruses went well, and the instrumental portion was worthy of the rest of the performance.—*Musical World*.

ABERDEEN.—The General Association for the improvement of Psalmody has made a very successful commencement under the conduct of Mr. Wm. Carnie. It already numbers 860 members. The practice-class are studying "Brightest and best of the sons of the morning" (Avison), and "Now pray we for our country" (Eliza Flower).

IRELAND.—Madame Clara Novello lately visited the sister island, giving several performances at Dublin, Belfast, and Cork. The *Dublin Freeman's Journal*, speaking of the Philharmonic concert, says:—"Madame Clara Novello was the principal songstress of the evening, and sang throughout with great fervour, elegance, deliciousness of tone, and purity of intonation. The song by 'Silas,' 'Oh! would I were a silver-moonbeam,' though a good composition, is a little dry in melody, besides having its modulations too frequent for effectiveness of vocal expression; yet this lady made so much of it, and sang it so deliciously, as to bring down an immediate *encore*. She was also recalled after singing the 'Ernani, Ernani, involami,' which was certainly the finest piece of singing during the evening. The recitative was superb, and the aria and final *motivo* rendered with power, freshness of color, and high executive finish. To the *encore* she sang 'Bonnie Prince Charlie'—we fancy in a manner only to be heard from one gifted with such a crystal-toned voice."

NEW ORGAN AT ST. MARTIN'S-IN-THE-FIELDS.—The inauguration was celebrated by full Cathedral service, morning and evening, on the 30th November. Precursor, the Rev. T. Helmore; Organist, Mr. Hopkins. The following was the music performed:—The "Preces," "Venite," and "Responses," by Tallis; the morning service, by Nares (in F.); the evening service, by Gibbons (in F.); the Anthem, on both occasions, by Dr. Croft,—viz., "O Lord, thou hast searched me out," and "God is gone up with a merry noise." The fine organ, built by Messrs. Bevington, cost a large sum of money; and is erected by voluntary subscription.

Public News, Intelligence, or Occurrences.

Published on the 1st and 15th of every Month.

COURT CIRCULAR.

WINDSOR, Dec. 13.

The dinner party yesterday included her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent, Lady Fanny Howard, Baroness de Spaeth, and Colonel Francis H. Seymour.

The Queen, accompanied by the Princesses Helena and Louisa, walked in the Castle grounds and gardens this morning.

His Royal Highness Prince Albert went out shooting.

Earl Spencer, Lord Steward of the Household, arrived to-day, and had an audience of Her Majesty to present the address from the House of Lords in answer to the Speech from the Throne. His Lordship afterwards returned to London.

A Cabinet Council was held on Wednesday afternoon at the Foreign-office, Downing-street. The Ministers sat two hours and a half.

MOZART'S and HAYDN'S MASSES, in Vocal score, with an Accompaniment for the Organ or Pianoforte by VINCENT NOVELLO; with the alto and tenor parts in the C cleff. Oblong quarto size. Mozart's Masses, Nos. 1 to 18, half-bound in 3 vols., 54s. 6d. Haydn's Masses, Nos. 1 to 16, in 3 vols., 57s. 6d. Each Mass, singly, from 1s. 6d. to 6s. each.

MOZART'S GRAND REQUIEM MASS, arranged for Pianoforte Solo, by Josiah Pittman. 4s.

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MOZART'S MASSES FOR PIANOFORTE SOLO, by VINCENT NOVELLO.

No. 1 in C	.	.	2	6
2 in C	.	.	3	0
7 in B flat	.	.	3	0
12 in G	.	.	6	0

J. Alfred Novello, London and New York,

TWELVE NEW 2s. SONGS for 5s. 6d.—For a short time only; in aid of the Patriotic Fund.—An ALBUM of SONGS, published at 21s., first-class music, quite new, sent on receipt of 5s. 6d. in stamps, with six stamps for postage, by the Editor, JOSEPH R. W. HARDING, Esq., Professor of Singing, Alpha-road, New-cross, Kent.

JOHN BLOCKLEY'S "EXCELSIOR."—New Edition, splendidly illustrated in Colours, 2s. 6d.; Duet, 3s. "Blockley's 'Excelsior' in C is a beautiful composition, worthy of Longfellow's poem, which is here rendered entire. 'The Verse of the Maiden,' 'The Old Man's Address,' 'The Monks of St. Bernard's Prayer,' and the Finale, are dramatic and effective, and quite equals the numerous popular works of this composer."—*Musical Review*.

Cramer, Addison, and Co., Regent-street; Duff, Oxford-st. Orders should specify "Blockley's 'Excelsior.'"—"Excelsior" as a Vocal Duet, 3s. "Evangeline," (founded on Longfellow's poem). Price 2s.

THE BEST PRESENTS IN MUSIC.—MESSRS. BOOSEY and Sons' New Editions of the following complete *Operas* for Pianoforte Solo (without words), most beautifully engraved and printed, and bound in embossed green cloth, ornamental lettering in gold, and gilt edges.—Norma, 5s.; Sonnambula, 5s.; Lucrezia Borgia, 5s.; Fille du Regiment, 5s.; Don Juan, 6s.; Fra Diavolo, 6s.; Lucia di Lammermoor, 6s.; Huguenots, 9s. Boosey and Sons, 28, Holles-street.

MUSIC MADE EASY. — RUDIMENTS OF MUSIC by J. EASTES, 9d, post-free 1s. It is used for the tuition of the Choristers of Trinity and St. Peter's, &c. Colleges, Cambridge. London, J. A. Novello; Author, King's College, Cambridge.

MENDELSSOHN'S HYMN OF PRAISE, (Lobgesang) Symphonia Cantata. Vocal Score, folio size, 14s.; Ditto, 8vo. size, in paper cover, 4s.; the same, bound with *As the Part Parts*, 5s. 6d.

Each movement may be had singly, as follows:—

No. 1	The Sinfonia. Arranged as Duet, by the Author	5	0
2	All men, all things;—Chorus: and Praise thou the Lord.—S. Solo and Chorus	2	6
3	Sing ye praises. Recit. and Air, Tenor	} 1	6
4	All ye that cried. Chorus		
5	I waited for the Lord. Duet S.S. and Chorus	1	3
6	The sorrows of death. Solo, Tenor	1	0
7	The night is departing. Chorus	1	9
8	Let all men praise the Lord. Choral	1	0
9	My song shall always be of thy mercy. Duet, S.T.	1	0
10	Ye nations offer to the Lord. Chorus	2	0

N.B.—The Choral and Orchestral Parts may be had of the Publisher, J. Alfred Novello, London and New York.